

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700100

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

This project will concentrate on OHV / OSV trail signing, routine trail maintenance, servicing and updating information boards on the California Portions of the Bridgeport and Carson Ranger districts of the Humboldt - Toiyabe National Forest. Both districts have a year round program including busy snowmobile areas. The primary expense of this project will be funding for seasonal Recreation Technicians for each district. Grant funding will cover one Recreation Technician for each district, Summer and Winter. It is expected that these positions will work closely with Forest Protection Officers hired through Law Enforcement grants.

Bridgeport Ranger District (Summer) - The Bridgeport Ranger District provides many miles of motorized trail opportunities. Most of these routes are suitable for 4 wheel drives, ATVs and motorcycles. The district will complete Travel management planning by the end of 2009. This will close the district to cross country motorized travel, designating a system of open routes that includes many motorized trails. Currently areas of the district are already closed to motorized cross country travel with designated roads and trails in these areas. This project will focus on these areas where routes are already designated as well as areas of high OHV use where we have seen some resource damage including the Sweetwater Range, The Lost Cannon area, Sonora Pass, Green Creek, Virginia Lakes and Buckeye. In all of these areas, most Forest visitors take part in a variety of recreation activities including OHV riding, camping, fishing, hiking etc. This project will focus on installing, updating and maintaining regulatory and directional signing in these areas which will include posting signs on open routes and posting closure signs on closed and newly pioneered routes which are damaging resources. The summer recreation technician will also make public contacts, monitor dispersed camping associated with OHV use and post informational and educational signing in these areas.

Bridgeport Ranger District (Winter) - Popular snowmobile areas on The Bridgeport District includes Sonora Pass, Virginia Lakes, Green Creek, Buckeye, and the Sweetwater Mountains when conditions permit. Four miles of groomed routes exist at the Sonora Pass area from Pickle Meadows to Leavitt Lake. The remaining areas are ungroomed. The bulk of the snowmobile recreation occurs in the Sonora Pass and Leavitt Creek / Lake areas. The winter Recreation technician will work closely with Forest Protection Officers (FPO) and Law Enforcement Officers (LEO), but will concentrate on signing boundaries and non-motorized areas, posting information at trailheads, and providing information to forest visitors.

Carson Ranger District (Summer) - The Carson Ranger District has completed its Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) and will focus on implementing it in 2009. This designates all roads and trails on the district that are open to motor vehicles. Popular areas in the California portion of the District include Dog Valley, Alpine County, Leviathan / Monitor Pass and use along the Carson River, Wolf Creek and Ebbetts pass area. The summer Recreation technician will post appropriate directional and regulatory signing on open routes and will post signs on closed areas and newly pioneered routes that are causing resource damage. Some routes may require physical barriers to close. We will place boulders utilizing the forest road crew for these areas. The MVUM has designated many spurs for dispersed camping. Inappropriate camping areas that are causing resource damage will be signed as closed and forest Visitors will be encouraged to camp in suitable areas. The summer Recreation Technician will monitor dispersed camping associated with OHV use and post informational and educational signing in these areas. This position will also make public contacts and inform visitors of OHV recreational opportunities and regulations.

Carson Ranger District (Winter) - The winter position will focus on implementing the Alpine Winter Recreation Plan which includes signing areas for the appropriate use, updating information at trailheads, maintaining Wilderness boundary signs, providing information to forest visitors and coordinating with FPOs and LEOs. This Recreation technician will work mostly in the Hope Valley to Blue Lakes area which encompasses 65,000 acres. It is the most popular area for over-snow vehicles on the Carson Ranger District. Groomed trail (Blue Lakes Road), open riding areas, scenic vistas, and little-used trails make this area popular for Lake Tahoe and Sacramento based snowmobilers and by people living along the East side of the Sierra. The position will also post information at Centerville flat which serves as a winter trailhead for Wolf Creek / Ebbetts Pass and monitor other potential snowmobile areas such as Dog Valley and Monitor Pass as conditions permit.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The summer portion of this project focuses on providing directional and regulatory signing on open routes and trails which will provide OHV enthusiasts with an enhanced experience by defining OHV opportunities on the ground for both Districts. In addition, maintaining existing signs and updating information boards will provide important information about recreation opportunities to forest visitors. Defining our motorized trail systems with adequate signs will help prevent resource damage, sustain the current trail system and provide improved opportunity to forest visitors. Routine trail maintenance such as brushing, cutting out logs across trails and maintaining erosion control structures will also sustain and improve OHV opportunities.

In the winter this project will focus on defining areas for snowmobiles, signing wilderness boundaries, and providing information at trailheads to enhance and improve opportunities for snowmobilers as well as non-motorized winter recreation enthusiasts. The snowmobile crossing at the road closure gate in hope valley, will be mitigated using a fence extended from the gate, as prescribed in the Alpine Winter Recreation Plan. This will provide a safe crossing and protect the creek banks from potential damage when there is minimal snow.

C. Size of the Project

The California portion of the Bridgeport Ranger District includes roughly 400,000 acres with approximately 450 miles of motorized routes. In the summer this project would most of these areas. In the winter the project area would be limited to areas with snowmobile use which is approximately 150,000 acres.

The California portion of the Carson Ranger District, namely Alpine County and Dog Valley includes about 200,000 acres and 390 miles of motorized routes that are suitable for OHVs. Most of the winter motorized recreation occurs in hope valley and area of approximately 65,000 acres.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

The project area contains the major OHV and snowmobile areas on each district.

The California portion of the Bridgeport Ranger District includes about 400,000 acres with approximately 450 miles of motorized trails. In the summer this project would most of these areas. Sonora Pass / Leavitt Lake, Green Creek, Virginia Lakes, and the Sweetwater range are the primary areas of the Bridgeport district with motorized trails. Most of these trails are suitable for and utilized by all types of motor vehicles. In the winter the project area would be limited to areas with snowmobile use which is approximately 150,000 acres, Leavitt Lake / Sonora pass. There are 4 miles of groomed trails and the surrounding area provides open riding of varying degrees of difficulty including expert terrain. When there is ample snow, opportunity also exists in the Sweetwater Range and at lower elevations.

The California portion of the Carson Ranger District, namely Alpine County and Dog Valley includes about 200,000 acres and 390 miles of motorized routes that are suitable for OHVs. Most of these trails are suitable for and open to of motor vehicles. Near the California / Nevada border in the Dog Valley area there are about 20 miles of motorized single track, and ATV trails. Snowmobiling opportunities are mostly limited to the hope valley area in Alpine County. There are approximately 20 miles of groomed trails and ungroomed and open riding opportunities in the area. Trailer parking is at the Hope Valley Sno-park. When conditions permit, there is snowmobile riding from Centerville flat to Ebbetts Pass and also in the Monitor Pass area.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

(a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
3. **Project-Specific Maps**
Attachments:
4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

[Carson RD North](#)

[Carson RD South](#)

[Bridgeport RD](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: USFS - Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
 Application: Ground Operations

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	USFS - Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest		
PROJECT TITLE :	Ground Operations	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>This project will concentrate on OHV / OSV trail signing, routine trail maintenance, servicing and updating information boards on the California Portions of the Bridgeport and Carson Ranger districts of the Humboldt - Toiyabe National Forest. Both districts have a year round program including busy snowmobile areas. The primary expense of this project will be funding for seasonal Recreation Technicians for each district. Grant funding will cover one Recreation Technician for each district, Summer and Winter. it is expected that these positions will work closely with Forest Protection Officers hired through Law Enforcement grants.</p> <p>Bridgeport Ranger District (Summer) - The Bridgeport Ranger District provides many miles of motorized trail opportunities. Most of these routes are suitable for 4 wheel drives, ATVs and motorcycles. The district will complete Travel management planning by the end of 2009. This will close the district to cross country motorized travel, designating a system of open routes that includes many motorized trails. Currently areas of the district are already closed to motorized cross country travel with designated roads and trails in these areas. This project will focus on these areas where routes are already designated as well as areas of high OHV use where we have seen some resource damage including the Sweetwater Range, The Lost Cannon area, Sonora Pass, Green Creek, Virginia Lakes and Buckeye. In all of these areas, most Forest visitors take part in a variety of recreation activities including OHV riding, camping, fishing, hiking etc. This project will focus on installing, updating and maintaining regulatory and directional signing in these areas which will include posting signs on open routes and posting closure signs on closed and newly pioneered routes which are damaging resources. The summer recreation technician will also make public contacts, monitor dispersed camping associated with OHV use and post informational and educational signing in these areas.</p> <p>Bridgeport Ranger District (Winter) - Popular snowmobile areas on The Bridgeport District includes Sonora Pass, Virginia Lakes, Green Creek, Buckeye, and the Sweetwater Mountains when conditions permit. Four miles of groomed routes exist at the Sonora Pass area from Pickle Meadows to Leavitt Lake. The remaining areas are ungroomed. The bulk of the snowmobile recreation occurs in the Sonora Pass and Leavitt Creek / Lake areas. The winter Recreation technician will work closely with Forest Protection Officers (FPO) and Law Enforcement Officers (LEO), but will concentrate on signing boundaries and non-motorized areas, posting information at trailheads, and providing information to forest visitors.</p> <p>Carson Ranger District (Summer) - The Carson Ranger District has completed its Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) and will focus on implementing it in 2009. This designates all roads and trails on the district that are open to motor vehicles. Popular areas in the California portion of the District include Dog Valley, Alpine County, Leviathan / Monitor Pass and use along the Carson River, Wolf Creek and Ebbetts pass area. The summer Recreation technician will post appropriate directional and regulatory signing on open routes and will post signs on closed areas and newly pioneered routes that are causing resource damage. Some routes may require physical barriers to close. We will place boulders utilizing the forest road crew for these areas. The MVUM has designated many spurs for dispersed camping. Inappropriate camping areas that are causing resource damage will be signed as closed and forest Visitors will be encouraged to camp in suitable areas. The summer Recreation Technician will monitor dispersed camping associated with OHV use and post informational and educational signing in these areas. This position will also make public contacts and inform visitors of OHV recreational opportunities and regulations.</p> <p>Carson Ranger District (Winter) - The winter position will focus on implementing the Alpine Winter Recreation Plan which includes signing areas for the appropriate use, updating information at trailheads, maintaining Wilderness boundary signs, providing information to forest visitors and coordinating with FPOs and LEOs. This Recreation technician will work mostly in the Hope Valley to Blue Lakes area which encompasses 65,000 acres. It is the most</p>		

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
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	popular area for over-snow vehicles on the Carson Ranger District. Groomed trail (Blue Lakes Road), open riding areas, scenic vistas, and little-used trails make this area popular for Lake Tahoe and Sacramento based snowmobilers and by people living along the East side of the Sierra. The position will also post information at Centerville flat which serves as a winter trailhead for Wolf Creek / Ebbetts Pass and monitor other potential snowmobile areas such as Dog Valley and Monitor Pass as conditions permit.
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Other-OHV Technician	200.000	145.500	DAY	29,100.00	0.00	29,100.00
	Other-OSV Technician	160.000	236.000	DAY	37,760.00	0.00	37,760.00
	Other-OHV Coordinator	50.000	315.000	DAY	0.00	15,750.00	15,750.00
	Other-District REC staffs	30.000	350.000	DAY	0.00	10,500.00	10,500.00
	Heavy Equipment Operator	5.000	300.000	DAY	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Total for Staff				66,860.00	27,750.00	94,610.00
2	Contracts						
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Other-directional trail signs	20.000	100.000	EA	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Other-Regulatory Signs / Stickers	200.000	15.000	EA	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	Other-PPE	2.000	500.000	EA	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Other-Barriers / Boulders	20.000	200.000	EA	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				6,000.00	4,000.00	10,000.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Vehicle Use	4000.000	0.370	MI	0.00	1,480.00	1,480.00
	Other-OHV / OSV maint / fuel	2.000	1000.000	EA	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				2,000.00	1,480.00	3,480.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
7	Administrative Costs						
	Administrative Costs-GA Specialist	5.000	400.000	DAY	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Program Expenses					74,860.00	35,230.00	110,090.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					74,860.00	35,230.00	110,090.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					74,860.00	35,230.00	110,090.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: USFS - Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
 Application: Ground Operations

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	66,860.00	27,750.00	94,610.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	6,000.00	4,000.00	10,000.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	2,000.00	1,480.00	3,480.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Total Program Expenses		74,860.00	35,230.00	110,090.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		74,860.00	35,230.00	110,090.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		74,860.00	35,230.00	110,090.00	

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

THIS PROJECT WILL CONCENTRATE ON POSTING SIGNS, UPDATING INFORMATION BOARDS, PUBLIC CONTACT AND ROUTINE TRAIL MAINTENENCE. THERE WILL BE NO DIRECT IMPACTS TO WETLANDS OR WATER HABITATS. ANY IMPACTS FROM IMPROVED SIGNING, EDUCATED VISITORS AND DEFINITION OF THE FORESTS OHV OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE BENEFICIAL.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

THIS PROJECT WILL CONCENTRATE ON POSTING SIGNS, UPDATING INFORMATION BOARDS, PUBLIC CONTACT AND ROUTINE TRAIL MAINTENENCE. THERE WILL BE NO DIRECT IMPACTS. ANY IMPACTS FROM IMPROVED SIGNING, EDUCATED VISITORS AND DEFINITION OF THE FORESTS OHV OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE BENEFICIAL. THERE IS NO OVERLAP OF EFFECTS WITH OTHER PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES.

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

THIS PROJECT WILL INCLUDE MAINTENANCE, SIGNING AND EDUCATION. ANY IMPACTS TO SOILS WILL BE BENEFICIAL AND REDUCE OR ELIMINATE TRAFFIC ON STEEP SLOPES AND IN AREAS OF EROSION SOILS.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

THIS PROJECT WILL NOT ADD ANY TRAILS OR CAUSE ANY DISTURBANCE. THE PROJECT WILL INCLUDE MAINTENANCE, SIGNING AND EDUCATION. THERE WILL BE NO VISIBLE IMPACTS ALONG STATE SCENIC HIGHWAYS.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

EFFECTS OF THIS PROJECT WOULD BE LIMITING MOTORIZED TRAFFIC TO DESIGNATED ROUTES. THIS SHOULD BE A BENEFICIAL EFFECT TO RECREATION AND RESOURCES AND IS NOT EXPECTED TO CAUSE ANY DISPLACEMENT OF FOREST VISITORS.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[MVUM North](#)
[MVUM South](#)
[Alpine Winter Rec DN](#)
[Alpine Winter REC EA](#)

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
☒ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
☒ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
☒ Potential trespass (2 points)
☐ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

This Grant would provide recreation technicians to sign our OHV areas as well as educate and inform forest visitors. By providing defined OHV opportunities we will reduce off route travel which will protect resources and reduce trespass.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 12

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
☒ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
☒ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
☒ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
☐ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

This project would include routine trail maintenance, which would include maintaining erosion control structures and repairing damaged tread. Signage would be placed on open and closed routes to control traffic. Most trails are multi - use and would be signed and maintained appropriately.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Public involvement through the Alpine Winter Recreation planning process and the Forests Travel management process. Meetings with Friends of Hope Valley.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points) ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
☐ 1 (1 point) ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

North Tahoe Snow travelers, Snowlands, Hills Angels, Dust Devils, and others.

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 3

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
☒ Protecting water quality (1 point)
☐ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
☐ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
☐ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
☐ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
☒ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
☐ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

Improved signing and information for forest visitors will improve compliance with regulations and visitors will know where they can ride which will limit impacts to cultural sites and protect water quality. We will place signs on closed areas and barriers / boulders to protect fragile areas such as meadows.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 1

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
☒ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
☐ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
☐ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
☐ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point)

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 0

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures

- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☒ No (No points)

☐ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

☒ Camping

☒ Birding

☒ Hiking

☒ Equestrian trails

☒ Fishing

☒ Rock Climbing

☒ Other (Specify) [Skiing]